On board the Brig Dreadnought at Sea, Lat. 36° 32' N. Lon. 48° 40' W. Nov. 1st 1833

My dear Parents Brothers & Sisters.

I commence this letter with the hope that we shall meet some vessel bound to America by which I may send to my friends. A vessel has just been discovered ahead of us, about five miles distant — but her course appears now to be towards the north of Europe — should she be bound to my native country we shall speak her & hail her in the course of an hour —

Since last, my friends, the Lord has indeed manifested his over ruling hand, in a peculiar manner. His banner over us has been love, so that we have reason to say we have had cause to bless the Lord for every mercy & forget not all his benefits. To use the sea-mans phrase we have had a fine run this far. This is the forty-first day since we sailed, & the weather has generally been pleasant & fair. We are now 300 miles from Newfoundland & going on our course at the rate of from six to ten miles an hour — our little company are now comfortable & well, except Sister Poor who, in consequence of sickness & debility of health, when she came on board, has been more debilitated by sea-sickness, which she suffered for more than the rest of us but I hope she is recovering — I have been about little as I used to be sea-sick — this has been a very kind Providence to me, for had I been as sick as some of our members, I fear the same would have produced bleeding at the lungs. But under the care of a merciful God I am now recovering my appetite & strength daily — You have, I hope, received my letter written at Newburyport just before I sailed. I just had time to write a few lines to Mr. Thursday, & went on board the Brig not expecting to leave it until I arrived at Boston. Our friends, who were so very kind to us while we were at Newburyport, were unwearied in acts of kindness & attention, & we parting with very many necessaries for our voyage. When we sailed they accompanied us to the ship, as well as a very large concourse of strangers. Doctor Spring made a very solemn & affectionate prayer, after which the farewell hymn to Missionaries at the close of Harriet Atwood's letter was sung — then we were loosed from the wharf & wafted down the river —

We had now entered upon
[illegible] had not the recollection of the scenes through which we had
just been called to pass presented [illegible] the constant
motion of the vessel would [illegible] Tuesday morning I looked
[illegible] land. Nothing but the firmament above & the waters
beneath were to be seen from our floating house. This day
was much occupied with the rest in setting [illegible] to
rights, & storing away our trunks & effects. I commenced
[illegible] in the cabin this evening which we kept up
[illegible] every morning & evening since. Wednesday most of our
number began to be sea sick & felt no disposition to eat
except [illegible] who was not even little sick. Thursday
[illegible] were the worst days to most of us. You would have smiled
to see us sliding about on deck & below just where we could
find a place to rest when the sickness came on. It is the
most unpleasant feeling I ever experienced. Friday felt a little
better & some of the rest were relieved from sickness almost
entirely. About noon a heavy gale of wind with rain commenced
from the south & continued very severe until twelve at
night. It appeared to us, who were unaccustomed to such
scenes, very tremendous. It seemed as though every blast of wind
would blow our vessel into [illegible] the sea ran mountains high
& foamed & lashed in commotion, dashing over the ship. I cannot
describe to you a storm at sea. Never had we seen as much
of the entire phenomena of [illegible] the winds on
[illegible]. The appearance were evident that the Lord [illegible] could
give the winds a little more power & there was all, in a moment,
in the bowels of the vast ocean. Sometimes the vessel would rock
[illegible] that we were obliged to hold on with all our strength
to prevent being thrown from one side to the other. The [illegible]
a solemn season. It seemed at times as though [illegible]
between me & death but I felt calm & willing that the Lord should
do with me as seemed him good. I thought of home & friends
& of you, but yet I felt true resignation to the will of God. I thought
if he has need of my services he could protect me if he had not [illegible]

We are now eating the butter from one of the pots I brought from Marlboro. It is very sweet. Indeed. It is much needed. I can remember at present of the class of my relations & my dear relatives whom it is brought to the table I should not this morning.

Wednesday Nov 15th This day was set apart as a day of humiliation thanksgiving & prayer. The forenoon was spent in acknowledging our ingratitude, & how we had provoked the Lord to chastise us so justly provoked. We remembered the storms & tempests we had encountered & particularly the sickness & utter loss. The afternoon was spent principally in recounting the mercies which had been far greater than our judgments, & who we had deserved nothing but his righteous displeasure. I trust each of us found it good to render thanksgiving to the great author of all our mercies & profitable to humble ourselves before him. We remembered particularly our dear friends & were filled sorrowful reflections when we came to the throne of grace. & cannot tell how consoling is the thought that we are remembered in their prayers. Friday 17th Yesterday just at dusk we spoke a ship from Bucnos Ayres bound South America bound to Liverpool. The name of the ship we know not as it came as a sort of pleasure we had never before experienced to hear unto the dear native man voice that did not belong to our ship. But now until we have been shut up in a ship we can not realize the pleasure we have in hearing an American voice. We are bound to America, but we must wait the Lords time. I have an opportunity to send letters to our friends. This is the 25th day since we sailed. While you are comfortably seated around a good fire, and dressed in thick clothes but uncomfortably warm in the sun. Our Lat. today is 22 30 N & Long. 28. W. Not far as you will see on the map from the prospect of Cancer. Our voyage has been very pleasant. We have had for many days past very pleasant weather. I have been reading the apple I took from home today on deck to dry at noon. It is as fine as ever was. It is the last on board. We do not use dried apples yet. Two barrels of fresh apples were put on board which have furnished us with many good pies & puddings & sauce & applied to eating. We are making preparations for

day
Thursday Nov 22 We have abundant reason to speak of the goodness of the
Lord toward us. Sister Brooks who has been very feeble at times exer-
cised with pain of mind & body, is now most recovering. This evening she wants to walk with us,
& attended our weekly prayer-meeting. Surely the Lord is gracious hearing & answering prayer.
could record the goodness of the Lord continually on my heart
Sabbath Nov 25th 11. "Bless ye," can we say the Lord has bless-
ed us. He has been on our right hand & on our left & his mercy
has been love. When the has afflicted us it is
strokes have been far lighter than our sins deserve. We have
not enough to make it pleasant on deck. Have had our
usual religious exercises to day. Brother Richards preached from
Ecc 10.. 20 21- very solemn discourse with much
feeling & earnestness on such occasions as this. I enjoy preaching
as much, & sometimes more than I used to do. I feel
the same spirit & sanctified to God & we have the same
Gospel - the same promises which are Christian friends on earth have
It is worthy of remark that every Sabbath since we came out
has not only been fair but remarkably pleasant. We have not
in no instance been interrupted on account of social or sacramental
meetings as we should have taken the most pleasant
we now make fine progress on our way, where day ever to go.
Monday Nov 26 The wind & the countenances of all are changed
the weather all have become quite sick for many days. Have seen
a number of Porpoises & one whale about as large as a boat
Tuesday Nov 27 Have had a fine sailing day. Have seen many
flying fish. They rise out of the water & fly about
20 or 30 feet & fall in again. They look like the planet & have wings like
a bat. Wednesday Nov 28 Had a fine sailing day & made
a good run. Lat 18° Long 110° It seems as if we were
near the Island of St Anthony the most northerly of the
Cape de Verds. We hope to see it but it is now
to dark. We have been very sick for some days & are now taking in sail for fear we should run upon it in the dark before
we can see it.

Monday Dec 11th at 6 o'clock crossed the Equator. Forty nine days out. You will observe by this cheerful life that we are nine days later in getting to the Equator than the Parisian but that was a much faster sailing vessel than ours. The Capt calls this a common passage for such a ship as ours. We were very anxious to reach our destined port. But we could rejoice that we are at the disposal of a wise & good Providence. Although on the Equator yet the heat is not oppressive, neither has it been so at any time since we sailed. We have been favoured with light refreshing breezes almost constantly. In very calm weather in the vicinity of the Equator, when there is no current of air the heat must be very oppressive. But this has not been the case. I could walk on deck for exercise at any time in the day without feeling the heat so sensibly as I have often felt it in England. The thermometer has not arisen higher than 78° & not generally higher than 70° in the Cabin. We could not have had more pleasant weather than we have had with exception of two very short gales soon after we sailed. Friday Dec 13. We were now in Lat 1° 58' S Long 30° 12' W. opposite the Brazil coast S. America & about 350 miles from land. Weather pleasant Sabbath Dec 17. Remarkably pleasant. Religious services as usual. Sermon by Brother Meyers from 1 Peter 4. 18. The subject was well calculated to seek the heart to lead to this important enquiry. Am I one of those who will at last be found among the righteous.

Tuesday Dec 20 This morning crossed the Tropick of Capricorn. The sun at noon was almost directly over our heads. It was yesterday the sun rose about 20 minutes after five A.M. Four days hence you had your shortest day. You doubtless feel the need of a good fire, while I shall be in the thinest clothes I have. I can hardly realize this while I write it. The Lord still favours us with uncommon mercies. all well. Good health the finest of weather & pleasant wind. For fourteen days past we have sailed about 160 miles & run nearly the same distance each day; the ship has been so steady that a glass of wine would have stood upon the table almost all the time without spilling. The Capt says he never experienced so much pleasant weather in sailing to the Southern Tropick before, though he has run it in a shorter time & have now been out 64 days.

I know not when I ever wished so much to see your family circle
But I know it was not forgotten in your prayers & conversation
It would have given you pleasure to know where I was & what I
was doing. Well I will tell you. Sam to day in Lat 23.23 Lon 25.W
in a most pleasant clime suffering no inconvenience from heat or cold.
wind enough to waft us 9 miles an hour & tho wafted so rapidly from
you I have been able to follow you in many of your exercises
sun rises about 6 hours sooner with us than with you - so that when
were taking breakfast you were rising when we held our meeting &
were at Breakfast - when we were at dinner you were going to meeting -
when we took tea you were at dinner - & ever fancied to
what some of your conversation was at these different times -
have you any curiosity to know what our dinner was. It was not
sumptuous but good. We had baked pork & plumb pudding - apple pies
mexican kinds of vegetables & cider. I myself eat the first meal
like more as usual for as well enough to partake with us
so that we had quite a little company together. Her health
more better than it has been for eight months before. My health
continues good - My strength grows through. Thus the Lord deals with
with us even when he reproves. Great are his mercies to us. I wish
Oper unto the Lord thanksgiving.

Sabbath Dec 30 The Lord has kept some very refreshing showers to day
The rain has prevented our attending meeting on deck but we
have held two meetings in the cabin. This little room
more other than the house of God. It has been a refreshing day
to my soul. At the first it was good to draw near to God in prayer
& praise & the contemplation of his holy works. How precious is the
promise of pardon & grace to sinners. Three or four are gathered
together in my name there am I in the midst of them
God is merely the fountain of those who put their trust in him
whichever they are in whatever circumstances they may be this day
wrong places. May the Lord assist your souls to day & make
even you a feast of fat things. They that want for the Lord
shall not want any good thing. He will not send them
empty away. That you all may enjoy his presence is the prayer of your

It has been summer days and we have had almost constantly gentle refreshing breezes which have wafted us along slowly but pleasantly & made more favourable for study than since the second week after sailing. We have regular recitations daily as though we were in an academy. Sabbath day Lat 35° 8' Long. 21° 49' E. The wind & high sea very much today. We have not seen each other's faces before. They occasionally dash over the deck in a large quantity — but with the violent rolling of the ship prevents our holding a meeting on deck. It has been a day of quiet composition & rather occasioned by taking in & setting sails & attending to the ship during the squalls of wind. This is the second sabbath we have not had preaching. Our cabin is always dry & comfortable where we could meet to worship God. The meetings were refreshing seasons. The storm reminded us of our entire dependance on God. Should He permit the winds to blow a little more fiercely we must all be victims to the fury but it is always safe to put our trust in the hands of him who holds the winds in his fists & stills them with & restrains them as he pleases. Yesterday we doubled the Cape of Good Hope where there is almost always a rough sea. We ran within 120 miles of Table Bay & wished much to call but it was not expedient. Weather here is like it is in America when we have south winds, but more wind & are usually fair when out 40 days & get a long voyage before us. —

Sabbath Feb 4. Lat 38° 08' S. Long. 34° 31' E. Another fine rough sabbath. There has no sermon; but the blessing is promised to those who worship God in spirit & in truth, however retired their situation. Some of our sweetest meetings are in the cabin, shut up from the world with a little number of those christian friends. What pleasure it would give me to hear from you if it were but a word, or to read some account of myself & tell you pleasantly of my situation how I am surrounded with mercies. Does the Lord indeed my dear Parents brothers & sisters, by his holy spirit take up his abode in your dwellings & your hearts? Do you thank Him when you go up to his sanctuary — when you visit your closets, & when you present yourselves before Him as the family altar? He is a prayer-hearing God. He does more than that. For from the humble & the contrite in heart He will not disguise. Such is our God, & shall we not love Him & put our trust in Him.